Briefing Deck

March 2020

Part I: Early Warning System Purpose & Overview

Part II: Tool Composition

Part III: Interventions

Part IV: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

RIDE Rhode Island Department of Education

Part I: Early Warning System Purpose & Overview

Early Warning System (EWS) Purpose

- EWS is a tool designed to help administrators and teachers identify 6th-12th grade students who are at risk of not graduating high school.

- Using a series of indicators, the dashboard provides color-coded risk "bands" to inform a multi-tiered system of support and keep students in school and on track to graduate.

- The dashboard should be used as a starting point for *identification of and intervention with* at-risk students.

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Overview

- Overwhelming academic research suggests attendance, behavior and academic achievement are predictors of high school completion.

- **In partnership with DataSpark and The Policy Lab at Brown University**, RIDE has released a dashboard, complete with a machine-learning algorithm to statistically forecast students most at-risk.

- A public beta will be available statewide through SY19-20; additional updates will be made before the SY20-21.

Overview

- The tool is available to Rhode Island educators and administrators with RIDEmap credentials.
  - District personnel have access to the profiles of all students grades 6-12 within their district.
  - School administrators and teachers will only access the profiles of those students in their school building and classes, respectively.

- National research and best practices around EWSs tells us that course failure is *also* an important predictor of student on-time graduation. The RIDE data collection to inform the EWS does NOT include course failures and is, therefore, not included in the EWS tool. Schools access the EWS tool should also be observing student course grades as well as local data sources to get more complete data on student risk.

Part II: Tool Composition

The Six Indicators

A student who is at **LOW RISK** will be flagged by the color green. This level of risk signifies that the student has a low risk for the specific indicator.

A student who is at **MEDIUM RISK** will be flagged by the color yellow. This level of risk signifies that the student has a medium risk for the specific indicator.

A student who is at **HIGH RISK** will be flagged by the color red. This level of risk signifies that the student has a high risk for the specific indicator.

Attendance Percentage
The percentage of days students are present at school in a given school year.

Grade Retention
The number of times students enroll in the same grade during different school years.

Number of Suspensions
The number of suspensions accumulated by students over a school year.

ELA State Assessment
The proficiency level the student received on the last administration of the ELA State Assessment.

Math State Assessment
The proficiency level the student received on the last administration of the Math State Assessment.

At-risk of Dropout
The likelihood of students not graduating high school if they stay on their current path.

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Student Dashboard – List View

Student Dashboard – Filters

Filters along the left column allow for subgroup data analysis, including:

1. School (district view)
2. Classes (teacher view)
3. Grade
4. Gender
5. Race/Ethnicity
6. FRL
7. IEP Status
8. ELL Status
9. All 6 Indicators

Apply Filters

Grade

10 ✕

Gender

Select Gender(s)

Race/Ethnicity

Select Ethnicity/Race(s)

Free/Reduced Price Lunch Status

Select Lunch Status(es)

Begin to type and choices will appear. Be sure to click the "Apply Filters" button to update the view.

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Individual Student Report

Name of Student

Grade:	12	Free/Reduced Price Lunch Status:	Y
Date of Birth:	06/19/2002	English Language Learner (ELL) Status:	N
Race/Ethnicity:	Hispanic	Individualized Education Program (IEP) Status:	N
Gender:	Male	504 Plan:	N

Attendance Percentage
+ View Attendance History

Attended **167** out of **185** school days (Attendance Rate: **90%**)

Student has missed **18** day(s) of school

View Resources

Number of Grade Retentions
+ View Enrollment History

Student has been enrolled in the same grade during different school years **0** time(s)

View Resources

Number of Suspensions
+ View Suspension History

Student has had **0** incident(s) of suspension

View Resources

ELA State Assessment
+ View ELA Assessment History

Test Year: **2018-19**, Grade: **11**, Test: **SAT**, Score: **600**,
Proficiency Level: **3 (Meeting Expectations)**

View Resources

Math State Assessment
+ View Math Assessment History

Test Year: **2018-19**, Grade: **11**, Test: **SAT**, Score: **570**,
Proficiency Level: **3 (Meeting Expectations)**

View Resources

At-risk of Dropout

The likelihood of students not graduating high school if they stay on their current path. Using students' historical data up until the end of the past school year including attendance rates, number of infractions, test scores, retentions, and days of in-/out-of-school suspension, a risk band is assigned using a predictive modeling technique. The algorithm analyzed RIDE records of all K-12 students in RI between 2004 and 2016 and "learned" patterns about the students who dropped out in an effort to warn educators of the students at risk in the future.

This indicator is only available for grades 9-12.

Click on "view resources" to see a list of interventions/ resources organized by indicator.

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Part III: Interventions

Interventions

- Available via the [RIDE website](#)

- Linked within the tool for student indicators showing high or medium risk for attendance, retention, suspension, and proficiency. Additional resources provided to support students with IEPs and English Language Learners

- Research-based or Evidence-Based

- Relied heavily on toolkits provided by RIDE departments

- Prioritized easily clickable and/or PDF ready resources

Interventions will continue to evolve as more feedback is provided from the field.

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Part IV: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What do I do if I want to look at student risk levels over time?

The individual student reports are exportable. You are able to save the information as a PDF to keep for your records. Keep in mind that the data available in the EWS tool is only the most current data available for students in your school or district. The tool does not keep historical data on students, i.e. what was the Attendance Percentage during the first semester versus the current semester.

How can I find more national research on Early Warning Systems in general?

Research and advocacy institutions like the Everyone Graduates Center at Johns Hopkins University and the Consortium on Chicago School Research (CCSR) have done excellent work in the fields of predicting and preventing high school dropout.

To Provide User Feedback, Please complete a Feedback Form

For more information or questions:

Technical Issues:

Contact the RIDE Helpdesk: support@ride.ri.gov

For EWS tool and training:

Contact the Office of College & Career Readiness: OCCR@ride.ri.gov